

Message Text

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17

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-07 NSC-06 RSC-01 /025 W
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O P 160830Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO JHEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 1197

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2382

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 149

PASS SENATOR PERCY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (PERCY, CHARLES)

SUBJ: CODEL PERCY

REF: A. DAMASCUS 31; B. AMMAN 210

1. FOLLOWING IS STATUS REPORT ON PLANS FOR YOUR VISIT TO SYRIA, WHICH WE WILL BE DISCUSSING FURTHER WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTOCOL LATER TODAY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE ON FOLLOWING TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

2. SATURDAY, JAN 18

1630: ARRIVE AT SYRIAN BORDER. MET BY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL AND EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER GNEHM.

1730: ARRIVE IN DAMASCUS. YOUR PARTY WILL BE STAYING AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

1830: BRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR ON CURRENT SITUATION IN SYRIA AND U.S-SYRIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2030: DINNER AT THE RESIDENCE IN YOUR HONOR.
(IN ADDITION TO SENATOR AND MRS. PERCY AND PARTY,
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DINNER GUESTS INVITED INCLUDE FOREIGN MINISTER AND MRS.

KHADDAM, DEFENSE MINISTER AND MRS. TLAS, PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR AND MRS. DAOUDI, AND MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND FOREIGN TRADE AND MRS. IMADI. EMBASSY SIDE WILL INCLUDE DCM AND MRS. PELLETREAU, POLITICAL OFFICER AND MRS. GNEHM.)

3. SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

MORNING: VISIT PALMYRA (FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS REQUESTED SPECIAL PLANE FROM MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, AND EXPECTS POSITIVE RESPONSE.) IN EVENT SPECIAL AIRCRAFT IS NOT AVAILABLE, WHAT WOULD YOUR REACTION BE TO MORNING VISIT TO QUNEITRA ON GOLAN HEIGHTS? (THREE HOURS ROUND TRIP BY CAR.)

LUNCH: PRIVATE LUNCH AT RESIDENCE

AFTERNOON: SIGHTSEEING AND SHOPPING IN OLD DAMASCUS. CALL ON FONMIN KHADDAM (IF HE UNABLE ATTEND SATURDAY DINNER).

1830: COCKTAILS AT RESIDENCE WITH AMERICAN MEMBERS OF EMBASSY STAFF.

4. MONDAY, JNAUARY 20

0800: DEPART FOR AMMAN BY EMBASSY VEHICLE.

1000: ARRIVE AT JORDANIAN BORDER.

4. MONDAY, JANUARY 20

0800: DEPART FOR AMMAN BY EMBASSY VEHICLE.

1000: ARRIVE AT JORDANIAN BORDER.

5. ABOVE SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE SEVERAL IMPORTANT APPOINTMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BUT NOT YET SCHEDULED. PRESIDENCY HAS ASSURED US PRESIDENT ASAD WILL RECEIVE YOU BUT TIME OF APPOINTMENT WILL NOT BE SET UNTIL YOUR ARRIVAL IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DAMASCUS. WE HAVE INCLUDED GENERAL TLAS AND MINISTER IMADI IN DINNER LIST AS IT SIMPLEST WAY FOR YOU TO MEET THESE TWO IMPORTANT MINISTERS. FOR PROTOCOL REASONS YOU SHOULD ALSO MAKE BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON SPEAKER OF SYRIAN PEOPLES COUNCIL (PARLIAMENT); TIME NOT YET CONFIRMED BUT PROBABLY ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON. U.K. AMBASSADOR ROBERTS DEPARTS DAMASCUS EARLY SUNDAY MORNING FOR EXTENSIVE TRIP, BUT WILL BE AVAILABLE

MEET WITH YOU EARLY SATURDAY EVENING IF YOU SO
DESIRE. OTHERWISE, WILL SET MEISSNER - U.K. POLITICAL
OFFICER, MEETING FOR SUNDAY. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. FOR AMMAN: REF B INDICATES YOU PLAN SENATOR
PERCY AND PARTY TO BE AT JORDANIAN BORDER AT 0930.
THIS WOULD REQUIRE THEM TO LEAVE DAMASCUS AT 0730
FOR WHAT NORMALLY IS TWO-HOUR RIDE. WILL
1000 ARRIVAL CAUSE DIFFICULTY?
MURPHY

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